
◀ MARS NEWS ▶

Volume 52, Issue 10

Mecklenburg Amateur Radio Society, Inc

October 2001



OCTOBER MEETING

The October program will be done by Tom Hopkins from JAARS. He will show a video and will go into some detail about the work the JAARS folks do. The name stands for Jungle Aviation And Radio Service. They use amateur radio to keep in touch with their people in the mission field where there is no other means of communications.

FROM THE EDITOR:

One of the other committees I have in addition to the newsletter is the Christmas Party each year. This year our party will be held on Saturday, December 1, 2001.

Your invitation is included in the newsletter. Please complete the form and send back by November 20 if you plan to attend the party. If you need directions to get to the party, go out to Elena's web site, www.ridemaps.com and download the map Elena did for the party.

I also want to say a special "Thank You" to Bob Reed who donates several jars of "homemade" honey each year to the party as door prizes. Thank You Bob and we hope you will donate some more "honey" this year!!!!

If you have any questions on the party, send me an email or give me a call in the evenings at 704-948-6006.

Mary Hunt, N4MH



From the President:

Wow – the month of September has gone by – and three-quarters of the year has passed. Where does the time go when it flies?

This has been the most horrific September in recent history. We shall never forget the events of the 11th and the tragic loss of life in New York, Washington DC, and Pennsylvania. Amateur radio was there in all three locations, directly touched by the tragedy, and assisting in recovery efforts.

Our own Vince Mates, KF4LVC, was called upon by his company to drive a company van full of gear up to “Ground Zero” in New York City. Vince took plenty of pictures and has some stories to tell – his pass allowed him to travel anywhere within the disaster area. He told me that getting from point “A” to point “B” wasn’t always easy when there is 6 stories of rubble in your way. We may have Vince show some of the photos at an upcoming Club meeting.

The MS-150 went off as scheduled September 22nd and 23rd. We had a great time, had lots of help from Club members, and picked up some extra help on Saturday and Sunday from other amateurs along the route. Almost every position was covered – it would have been nice to have a few more folks to ride with the situation teams, or perhaps have another SAG or two, but we did our usual “professional” W4BFB jobs. A BIG thanks to all who assisted.

The American Diabetes Association had their “America’s Walk for Diabetes” the following weekend. Again, thanks to AF4ZK, KG4CJM, KG4EJZ, and W4DXL for their assistance. We had a good time (even if they did run out of food before we got back to Freedom Park!)

Jamboree on the Air is coming up during the third weekend of October, on the 20th and 21st. Currently, we expect to use the station at Discovery Place, and possibly a second station at the Girl Scout headquarters on Idlewild Rd. Come on down and help if you can.

On Sunday October 21st, we also have the Charlotte Crop Walk – the largest in the country. Over 10,000 walkers, and they would like our help again. While most of the positions are filled, we could use some help with the “pickup vans.” That’s a pretty easy job though – you get to ride around as a passenger and play radio, looking for folks who are getting worn out from walking, or have feet that are wearing thin. Route observers are also needed to help keep an eye on key intersections and areas on the walk. Please contact me if you can help – there’s only 5 or 6 spots left to fill.

Our Christmas party is really early this year, on Saturday December 1st. Look for details elsewhere in the newsletter.

Finally, we are looking for candidates for Club offices. We have three board directors positions coming up for election, as well as the current officers. I will not be running for a Club office this year, though I may consider a board member slot. I have enjoyed the duties to which I have been elected, but I need to step back for a while. My personal responsibilities need to take precedence over Club responsibilities, though I will still be involved in Club activities.

I look forward to seeing everyone at our next Club meeting!

73,
Shawn, K4RSG

MINUTES OF MEETING SEPTEMBER 25, 2001

Shawn Goodin, K4RSG called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

Shawn discussed several upcoming public service events and solicited volunteers to help with them. The first of these is the ADA walk in Freedom Park on Saturday, Sept. 29 from 3 to 5 PM. On Sunday, Oct. 21 the Crop Walk will be held, and help will be needed starting at 12:30 PM. These events are a lot of fun and your participation is encouraged.

Paul Ponak, AD4IE, discussed a special event celebrating the 20th anniversary of Discovery Place which will be held over the weekend of Oct. 13 and 14. This event is described in detail in the October issue of QST. Radio contacts will be made from Discovery Place by our operators.

The Jamboree on the air is scheduled for October 20 and 21.

Tim Slay, N4IB solicited volunteers for hamfest committee chairpersons and forum ideas. Contact Tim

The "Break-away to the Beach" event held Sept 15 and 16 and raised 1.4 Million for the MS Society. 2000 cyclists participated. Shawn thanked everyone who contributed to this very successful event.

ED McKnight gave a demonstration at the meeting of modifying a Radio Shack FM antenna to serve as a 2 meter Yagi. The modified antenna is estimated to give 10 db gain over a quarter wave. Its other virtue is the fact that it can be done for about \$20 including the cost of the Radio Shack antenna. More details can be found in the July 1999 QST.

Dave Stewart, AF4ZK
Secretary

NOTE: We did not have a September Board Meeting out of respect for the victims of the tragic events occurring that day.

MS-150 BREAK AWAY TO THE BEACH

The MS-150 Break Away to the Beach was held the weekend of September 22-23, 2001. This is our largest public service event of the year. We had a total of 40 hams who supported the event. There was a total of 2006 cyclists who raised in excess of 1.4 million dollars for Multiple Sclerosis. My assignment for the event was riding with the Chapter President, Anne Marie McDermott. Anne Marie had lots of praise for the all the radio operators who supported the event. Those amateurs who participated in the event were:

KA4WYC-Jeff Blythe; KG4CJM-Arthur Bolduc; KC4YOI-Mark A. Cleary; KD4IIN-Bob Cole; KG4EJZ-Charles W. Cox Jr; KI4KK-George B. Fryer; KF4UVL-James P. (Perry) Garis; KG4NOW-Barbara Goodin; K4RSG-Shawn Goodin; N4WIK-Frank Halloway; KG4GMJ-Beth Hampton; KG4GVS-Kara Hampton; WD8KEL-Rick Hampton; G4GKK-Andrew C. Hawkins; KC4YPB-David E. Holbrook; N4MH-Mary S. Hunt; KA3VVJ-Thomas R Hunt; K4PVS-Robert M. Lampley; KE4JXF-Randy Matthews; WB4PCS-Wilton McAllister; KS4OX-Elena Maya-Scott; W4DXL-Mike Miranda; K4QW-J. Barry Mulvaney; KG4IOE-Gregory E Onachila; W4APE-Jack Pegues; N4IB-Timothy B. Slay; KI4YV-R.V. (Bob) Southworth; AF4ZK-David A. Stewart; W4WNT-William N. Turner; WB2NHQ-John White; KF4DLO -Mark Youngblood; AE4PX-John Yarbrough; KG4BJW-Ricky-McMakin; KG4PAG-Carmie Thomas; KE4OTZ-Tim Montgomery; K4NOC-French Bishop; KE4ALL-Kevin Wilhide; KF4UMR-Thalia Wilhide; KF4GWE-Wade Marsh; N4JJ-Jack Jackson.

A special Thank You to Elena, KS4OX who made the arrangements for a private room for dinner on Saturday night for the all members to enjoy dinner together. Let's do it again next year Elena!!! Also a special Thank You to Bob Southworth, KI4YV who very patiently each year is the Sweep vehicle on the route and always shadows the last rider. Tim Slay, N4IB did a great job of net control especially on Sunday morning when we had a couple of incidents happen very quickly and communications got a little hectic. Tim was also assisted on net control by Rick Hampton, WD8KEL.

A special thank you to all who participated - we could not have done it without you. The club appreciates all your hard work as well as the Multiple Sclerosis Society.

Mary Hunt, N4MH



John Yarbrough, Wilton McAllister, Otis Pruitt and Mary and Tom Hunt at dinner on Saturday night.



The Hampton family joined us this year for the first time supporting the event and operated from the lunch stop each day and also assisted with net control.



Net Control on Sunday at Rest Stop 7 with Shawn Goodin, Tim Slay, Beth Hampton and Bob Southworth.

John & Myra White at dinner on Saturday night.



Mecklenburg Amateur Radio Society

Cordially invites you and a guest to attend



our annual club Holiday Dinner Dance

To be celebrated at
Idlewild Country Club, 10141 Idlewild Road,
Mint Hill on

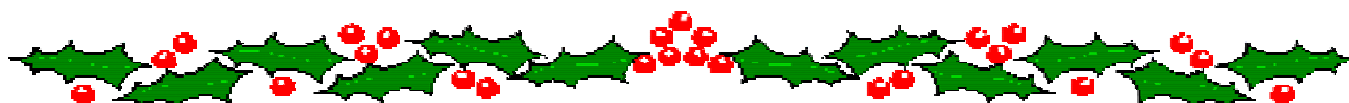
Saturday, December 1, 2001
at 7:00 p.m.



Buffet Dinner, Cash Bar, Door Prizes

Music will be provided by
The Wax Museum (a local DJ)

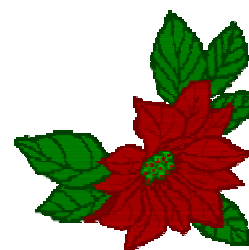
There is a nominal charge for the party this year. The charge is \$5.00 per person or \$10.00 a couple. Each member is entitled to bring one guest. Please complete the bottom of this sheet and return by November 20 with



your check:

Mail to:

Mary Hunt, N4MH
16007 Wynfield Creek Parkway
Huntersville, NC 28078



Name: _____

Total number of persons attending: _____

Check enclosed in the amount of: _____

Dinner for member and one guest at \$5.00 each.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Saturday-Sunday, October 20-21, 2001 — Jamboree On the Air, Discovery Place

Sunday, October 21, 2001 — Charlotte Crop Walk

Saturday, November 10, 2001 — VE Test Session, East Baptist Church, Monroe Rd, 9 AM

Saturday, December 1, 2001 — MARS Holiday Party

About This Newsletter

MARS News is published monthly for the members of the Mecklenburg Amateur Radio Society. Permission is given to re-print any article, provided that credit is given to Mecklenburg ARS and the respective author. Subscription to the newsletter, via US Mail, is provided to club members. Complimentary copies are available to guests and prospective members.

The deadline for submitting material is the 10th of each month. Please submit newsletter material to: **Mary S. Hunt, N4MH, 16007 Wynfield Creek Parkway, Huntersville, NC 28078 948-6006 or office 892-3270, Fax Number 892-8326**

You may submit material via Electronic Mail to: n4mh@w4bfb.org or on 3.5" diskette. The files should be in TEXT or WORD format.

TECHNICIAN CLASS

Tim O'Rourke, KG4CHX announced that their scout troop is sponsoring a three week Technician Class. The class will be on Thursday evenings at 7:00 p.m. on October 25, November 1 and 8. It will be at the Advent Lutheran Church or Back Creek Presbyterian Church. Contact Tim at 704-598-8461, on the 146.655 Concord repeater or send him an email: KG4CHX@telocity.com for exact location and other details.

FOR SALE: Epsom Color Stylus II Printer. \$50 OBO. Contact Mary Hunt, N4MH at 704-948-6006 or send an email to n4mh@w4bfb.org.

Mecklenburg Amateur Radio Society, Inc.

Officers and Board of Directors:

President

Shawn Goodin, K4RSG Email Address: k4rsg@arrl.net

Vice President

Wilton McAllister, WB4PCS, Email Address: wb4pcs@w4bfb.org

Secretary

Dave Stewart, AF4ZK, Email Address: af4zk@att.net

Treasurer

John White, WB2NHQ Email Address: wb2nhq@w4bfb.org

Directors

Jeff Blythe, KA4WYC, Bob Cole, KD4IIN ; Mac McCray, K4PDY; Bill Turner, W4WNT, Dave Wentzel, KD4ITI

Meeting Place:

East Baptist Church, 6850 Monroe Road (next to East Mecklenburg High School, near Conference Drive)

Meeting Time:

Last Tuesday of each month at 7:30 P.M.

Clubroom:

Red Cross Building, 2425 Park Road, RM 023, Charlotte, NC Telephone 704-334-3900

Club Repeaters:

146.34/146.94 w/Autopatch. 144.69/145.29 w/Autopatch.

144.63/145.23, no Autopatch

449.60/444.60 w/Autopatch and P/T 100.0

Autopatches Access *(don't unkey)+phone number. Disconnect #

222.80/224.40 w/Autopatch 145.01 Packet Digipeater, W4BFB-1

**METROLINA 2m EMERGENCY NET: 9:00 PM local time, daily on
146.34/146.94 featuring the ARRL Audio News feed on Sunday night.
Alternate frequencies announced**

MARS News

Mary S. Hunt, N4MH, Editor

16007 Wynfield Creek Pkwy

Huntersville, NC 28078

See you at the next meeting —
Tuesday, October 30, 2001